

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please delete paragraph [0002] and replace it with the following paragraph. An addition to the paragraph relative to the prior version is marked with underlining pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121:

[0002] There are about 100 nuclear power plants currently in operation in the United States. The nuclear reactor pressure vessels that form the hearts of these power plants are radioactive, and require special handling and containment when a power plant is serviced or decommissioned. Figure 1 is a cutaway schematic elevation view of a typical pressurized water type reactor pressure vessel 102. It comprises body 114 and head 115, internals 117, and a number of external fittings 103, including water nozzles 144 and control rod drive mechanisms 145. Head 115 comprises inner surface 476 and is joined to body 114 at flange 146 by means of attachments 132, and insulation 116 is in place around exterior 105 of the reactor pressure vessel. Internals 117 comprise upper internals 147 and lower internals 148.